

Message Text

PAGE 01 QUITO 00044 041430Z

51

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 017873

R 031810Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9555

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 0044

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, EC

SUBJECT: GOE REITERATES DESIRE FOR BETTER RELATIONS WITH U.S.

REF: QUITO 6577

1. SUMMARY: WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED THAT GOE OFFICIALS HAVE FOR SOME TIME BEEN EXPRESSING THEIR HOPES FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH U.S. THIS TREND HAS NOW INTENSIFIED. OVER PAST TWO WEEKS VARIOUS GOE OFFICIALS HAVE MADE KNOWN IN DIFFERENT WAYS TO VARIOUS MISSION OFFICERS THEIR VIEW THAT NOW IS THE TIME TO MAKE CONCRETE MOVEMENT TOWARD BETTER RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. THESE APPROACHES HAVE COME TO AMBASSADOR AND DCM FROM FONMIN AND SUBSECRETARY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AS WELL AS TO VARIOUS MEMBERS OF DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE FROM OTHER CABINET MINISTERS AND MILITARY OFFICERS. A KEY FACTOR BEHIND THESE APPROACHES, AT LEAST INsofar AS ECUADOREAN MILITARY IS CONCERNED, IS DESIRE USE U.S. AS SOURCE FOR FAIRLY SUBSTANTIAL ARMS PURCHASES THAT ARE I MINE T. END SUMMARY.

2. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, FONMIN MADE POINT THAT IMPROVED RELATIONS NOW SEEM POSSIBLE SO LONG AS WE CAN SEPARATE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE CAUSED FRICTIONS. IN COURTESY CALL ON SUBSECRETARY FONOFF DECEMBER 27, DCM AND HE DISCUSSED ELIMINATION OF VAN CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 QUITO 00044 041430Z

DEERLIN AMENDMENT TO FAA. SUBSEC MONCAYO TOOK OPPORTUNITY STATE HE BELIEVED SKY NOW CLEARING IN OUR RELATIONS.

3. ON DECEMBER 21, GENERAL MONTESINOS, SECRETARY OF

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, INFORMED DATT THAT MAIN TOPIC OF DISCUSSION AT CABINET MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THAT AFTERNOON WAS TO BE BETTERMENT OF RELATIONS WITH U.S. HE SAID THAT IN PREVIOUS DAY'S REGULAR CABINET MEETING THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION OF USING OIL AS LEVER IN U.S.-ECUADOREAN RELATIONS, BUT THAT CABINET WAS UNANIMOUS IN REJECTING THIS IDEA. REJECTION WAS LED BY RESOURCES MINISTER JARRIN.

4. SEVERAL OTHER SOURCES SUBSEQUENTLY DESCRIBED TO MISSION OFFICERS WHAT HAD HAPPENED IN CABINET MEETING OF 21ST. ARMS PURCHASES IN GENERAL WERE TOPIC OF DISCUSSION WITH GENERAL AGREEMENT U.S. SHOULD BE PRINCIPAL SOURCE. IT WAS IN THIS SENSE BETTERMENT OF RELATIONS BECAME CENTRAL THEME. ADMIRAL POVEDA, MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT, TOLD AIR ATT ON DECEMBER 22 THAT DECISIONS ON ARMS PURCHASES CAN TAKE PLACE WITH NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS, AND THAT PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ EXPRESSED STRONG PREFERENCE FOR U.S. EQUIPMENT.

5. GENERAL MONTESINOS, LATER EXPRESSED SIMILAR VIEWS TO DATT, AS DID MAJOR FREIRE, A FAVORITE OF THE PRESIDENT, WHO IS A STUDENT AT THE ARMY WAR ACADEMY.

6. GENERAL CARLOS AGUIRRE, SECRETARY GENERAL OF ADMINISTRATION, TOLD NAVATT DECEMBER 23 THAT PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH U.S. SO THAT NECESSARY ARMS PURCHASES AND OTHER MILITARY ASSISTANCE SUCH AS TRAINING COULD BE FORTHCOMING.

7. COMMENT: AS WE HAVE FREQUENTLY REPORTED, ECUADOR IS ABOUT TO NEGOTIATE ADDITIONAL ARMS PURCHASES. RECENT PERUVIAN ARMS PURCHASES, AS WELL AS ECUADOREAN CONCERN WITH PERUVIAN PLANS TO PROSPECT FOR OIL IN WHAT ECUADOR STILL CONSIDERS ITS TERRITORY, ARE CLEARLY FACTORS WHICH CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 QUITO 00044 041430Z

HAVE ADDED A NEW IMPETUS. ACCORDING DAO SOURCES, THE NAVY HAS ALREADY SIGNED LETTERS OF INTENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO SUBMARINES AS WELL AS A NUMBER OF PATROL BOATS FROM GERMANY. THE OTHER SERVICES ARE IN NEED OF EQUIPMENT AS WELL. THANKS TO OIL REVENUES, GOE HAS THE HARD CASH FOR ARMS PURCHASES. ECUADOR IS CONTINUING TO ASSERT ITS PREFERENCE FOR THE U.S. AS ITS ARMS SUPPLIER. WHILE IT IS TEMPTING TO CONTEMPLATE USING AUTHORIZATION FOR ARMS PURCHASE IN U.S. AS LEVER TO ACHIEVE OTHER U.S. AIMS HERE, PAST EXPERIENCE IN PLAYING THIS KIND OF A GAME WITH ECUADOR DOES NOT AUGUR WELL FOR SUCCESS. ARMS PURCHASES IN EUROPE AND DIFFICULTIES IN ADDRESSING OTHER PROBLEMS WOULD RESULT. A POSITIVE RESPONSE BY US ON

ARMS PURCHASE WOULD, ASIDE FROM ITS OBVIOUSLY FAVORABLE
IMPACT ON OUR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, STRENGTHEN
RELATIONS WITH CURRENT GOVERNMENT AND FACILITATE DIS-
CUSSIONS ON THE FISHERIES PROBLEM.
BREWSTER

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 27 JUL 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, REPORTS, MILITARY PERSONNEL, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974QUITO00044
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750001-2364
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740174/abbrzbiv.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: QUITO 6577
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOE REITERATES DESIRE FOR BETTER RELATIONS WITH U.S.
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, US, BE
To: STATE INFO LIMA
GUAYAQUIL
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005